

A CASE OF HORSESHOE KIDNEY.

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C. A., Swede, aged twenty-six, was admitted to Cook County Hospital, August 17, 1894, suffering with double lobar pneumonia, affecting chiefly right upper and left lower lobes. Grew steadily worse, with symptoms of general involvement of lungs in pneumonic process, and died August 22.

Post-mortem.—Aside from the changes in the lungs (where all five lobes were found in different stages from beginning hyperæmia to gray hepatization) the only interesting change was in the kidney, which was single.

The organ lay with two extremities in the usual situation of the kidneys. The lower margins of what should be the normal kidneys were continuous, with no apparent break in their structure. Two adventitious kidneys existed, turned with their hila directed obliquely outward and downward, and their inferior margins continuous across the front of the aortic bifurcation. Each of these four kidneys was anatomically, and apparently functionally, perfect, with pelvis, ureter, vein, and artery, only differing from normal kidneys in fusing imperceptibly into each other.

On each side the *ureter* arose normally from a perfect pelvis, passed vertically down behind the kidney tissue, and drained the pelvis of the other kidney on that side by an opening at its most dependent portion, continuing thereafter in its normal course. The pelves of the adventitious kidneys were somewhat wider than normal.

The renal *arteries* were normal on each side. In addition there arose an adventitious vessel from the front of the aorta just above its bifurcation. This separated into two portions, which entered each supplementary kidney at its hilum.

The *veins* were similarly arranged,—two normal renal veins and an extra trunk draining by the union of two tributaries the lower kidneys and entering the front of the inferior vena cava.

This anomaly is interesting as being the only case of horse-shoe kidney in 507 recent autopsies at Cook County Hospital, and is also interesting on account of the perfection of the development of all the four kidneys.

In the same series of 507 autopsies there were three cases of renal malposition. Two were in males. In all three the right kidney was affected, and in all it lay at the margin of the false pelvis.